

The Volunteer

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's Volunteer in Parks Newsletter

April 2015

Great Job INDU Volunteers! Midwest Region Outstanding Park Volunteer Program



Volunteer Supervisors nominated an amazing bunch of volunteers for the NPS George and Helen Hartzog Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

Have you seen the white trash bags along the road? Those are the work of Dave Gurniewicz, nominated for Outstanding Individual Volunteer, for the 65 tons of trash he has picked up over the last few years. If you have been over to Family Days at the Douglas Center, you will have met some of the Lake Station Boys and Girls Clubs Junior Environmentalist, who were nominated for the Volunteer Youth Group. Under the watchful eye of their leader Marcy Clough these young people have logged nearly 3000 hours. Leading the pack were Mike Larson and Lilly Toll who were nominated for the Youth Volunteer Award.

All these outstanding volunteers combined with the rest of our amazing team (who logged over 40,000 hours last year, a 70% increase over 2008,) are what put INDU at the top of the Midwest Region. Congratulations all!



National Winners were:

Tom Moberg,
Individual Volunteer Award
North Country National Scenic Trail
Buena High School, Volunteer
Youth Group Award
Channel Islands National Park

Sterling Fisher,
Youth Volunteer Award
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Big Bend National Park, Park
Volunteer Program Award

Kennesaw Mountain Hiking Club, **Volunteer Group Award**
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
Thelma Johnson,
Enduring Service Award
Ice Age National Scenic Trail

SAVE THE DATE

Friday July 31 5:30-7:30

Cowles Lodge at the Dunes Learning Center

Volunteer Appreciation

Reservations requested send

[Lynda Lancaster@nps.gov](mailto:Lynda.Lancaster@nps.gov) an email to let her know
you are coming.

Indiana Dunes, Science and YOU!!

Bringing Research to the Public at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Saturday May 2, 2015 at the Visitor Center

Check out this opportunity to talk with local scientists, learn about their research within Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and spend time with them out in the field! Come discover how research is used to solve real-life natural resource dilemmas and see how scientists use inquiry in their investigations. You might even try your hand using scientific tools! This program is geared toward individuals, families, and students. Researchers will use language that is easy to understand. Presentations will begin at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center Auditorium on State Road 49 just south of US Highway 20 in Chesterton, Indiana.

Featured scientists from Indiana University, Purdue University, and the United States Geological Survey will make presentations on their research and lead field trips highlighting their investigations. Research topics include:

- The Shifting Sands of Mount Baldy,
- Pitcher's Thistle: Saving a Federally Threatened Species?
- Plants Projected to Fare Well with Climate Change
- Using Microbiology to Help People and the Environment: A Look at Shoreline Water Quality

National Get Outdoors Day Open House

June 13, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Dunes Learning Center



Come celebrate the great outdoors in Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. This free event offers families a chance to explore Dunes Learning Center's 63-acre campus through themed hikes and participate in the Hoosier Riverwatch program. Live entertainment, kayak demonstrations, crafts and a picnic lunch are just a few of the activities. For more information and to pre-register, visit DunesLearningCenter.org.

Volunteers are needed for set-up and tear-down, parking, welcome table and more. If interested in volunteering, please contact Anicia Kosky at akosky@duneslearningcenter.org or 219-395-9555.

Looking for fun stuff to do at the park this summer? Pick up the Singing Sands at the Visitor Center or on line at www.nps.gov/indu





Here are some of the ways we need volunteers to help!
Check out www.volunteer.gov and click on the state of Indiana for the most current volunteer positions and group opportunities.

Beach Clean-up Team



Hot summer weekends and holidays bring A LOT of visitors out to the park, and they seem to leave a lot of trash.

We will be setting up a clean-up team for sections of the 15 miles of beach in the park.

If you are interested in helping on Sunday morning and/or evening, Monday morning, or really any time shoot Lynda_Lancaster@nps.gov and we will get started!



Lightning Bug Music Festival July 5

Needs Volunteers

Park partner Dunes Learning Center needs help with the second annual celebration of music and summer. Features include Grammy award winner Jerry Douglas presenting The Earls of Leicester, Blitzen Trapper, The Infamous Stringdusters, SHEL and Special Consensus.

Volunteers are needed for set-up and tear-down, parking, ticket takers and more. If interested in volunteering?

Contact Anicia Kosky at or 219-395-9555 akosky@duneslearningcenter.org.

Stewardship Days 3rd and 4th Saturday



Got an urge to destroy and remove honeysuckle, autumn olive, buckthorn, and oriental bittersweet? We can use your help on stewardship days the 3rd and 4th Saturday of each month so native beauties like these can thrive.

All restoration tools and safety gear will be provided. Please dress appropriately for the weather.

For more information and to RSVP please contact Ted Winterfeld at (219) 395-1661, ted_winterfeld@nps.gov or Rachel Veronesi at (219) 395-1844, rachel_veronesi@partner.nps.gov.

National Trails Day June 6, 2015

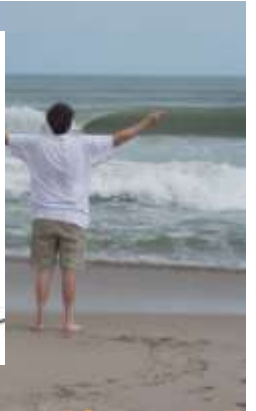
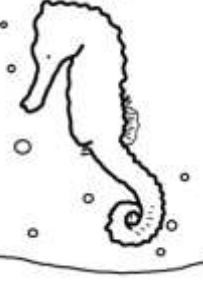
We want to have people hiking ALL 45 miles of trails in the park
Want to be part of the hike? E-mail Lynda_Lancaster@nps.gov !



Have a fun, safe, summer.
See you around the park!

Do a tick check every day you go outside

Blacklegged Tick (*Ixodes scapularis*)

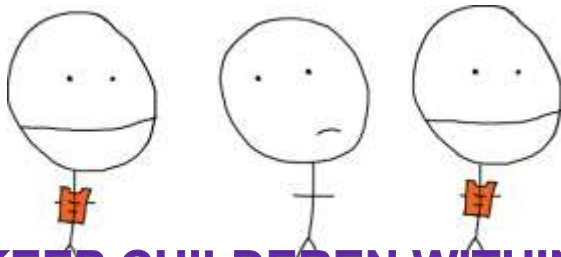


LEAVE A FLOAT PLAN & WEAR A LIFE JACKET



Sand bars are unpredictable

Check the weather



KEEP CHILDREN WITHIN ONE ARMS REACH



Never take your eyes off swimmers in the water

When you go hiking, let someone know where you are and when to expect you back.



Stay hydrated

